

A

REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE ENGLISH NATION.

Tuesday, July 23. 1706.

I am told, "I am a little too arrogant in confining our War to the Event of Peace, and that Circumstances may happen, which may make it necessary to pursue the Enemy farther than the bare restraining him from Mischief.—And this Part of it I readily grant.

But all this does not confine me from saying, the true End and Design of this War must be Peace; because the only justifiable End of fighting is so, all the rest is Plunder and Depradation.

As to possessing our Neighbours Country, and giving it to our Soldiers, it seems to me not only part of this Matter; we cannot do it, we cannot think of it without destroying our own just Pretences, and personally conforming to that Tyranny we profess to pull down.

England has Ways and Means sufficient to reward those, that venture their Lives in her Service.—Were we inclin'd to be grateful, and not when Men have fought for us, and deliver'd us, and come to be disbanded, turn them away with Poverty and Contempt, and expose them to Jails and Gibbets; or to seek Bread in foreign Service, of which I shall speak in its Season.

But that I may not offer my Opinion alone in this Case, I crave leave to bring some Vouchers to it, I have quoted already, Her Majesty's Speeches to the Parliament, and the Parliaments Addresses to Her Majesty; all which express the utmost Hopes and the last End of this War, to the restoring the Liberty of Europe, and obtaining a lasting Peace. I have quoted the Duke of Marlborough's Letter to Mr. Secretary *Barry*;

Harley; wherein his Grace prays for it, as all the Blessing we seek by this War; that the French may be reduc'd to the Necessity of accepting a firm and solid Peace.

Let me add a few more Authorities to my Opinion; Mr. Stanyer, the English Envoy in Switzerland, in his Memorial to the Cantons of Bern, tells them, 'tis the utmost of our Hopes, To reduce France to its just Bounds, and settle the Peace of Europe on a safe and lasting Foundation.

The Dissenting Ministers Address to the QUEEN, congratulating her Majesty on the wonderful Victories now obtain'd, has the same Words, Viz.

As the important Consequences of your Majesty's Triumphs make a daily Accession to your Glory; so they give us Hopes, and an agreeable Prospect of a speedy Reduction of France to its just Limits, and the Restitution of Liberty and Peace to Europe.

I think, I need go no farther, tho' I have a great Number of other Authorities concurring with my Opinion; I hope, no Man can take it amiss, that I thus differ in my Notion of the War from them; I entirely acquiesce in the Reduction of our Enemies, and of all the Enemies of the Protestant Religion, and the general Liberty of Mankind, whether at home or abroad; I would have all Manner of Tyranny, whether French or English, Foreign or Domestick, Ecclesiastical or Civil, reduc'd; or *a la Mode of Roger the Countryman* muzzled, most effectually muzzled, so as never to be able to worry Mankind any more.

Liberty is certainly a civil Right of Divine Original, the only Claim of Mankind which is of use *Durum* universally; he that won't fight for it, is a Fool, he that denies it to any, must be a Knave, *Anglice*, a Tyrant; for a Tyrant cannot be an honest Man.

Well Gentlemen, to leave the Year of things a while, let us talk of what is now in Agitation; since *Spain* & *Italy* we are made glad with unexpected News from *Italy*; Prince Eugene resolves not to be in the Duke of Marlborough's Debt, he will endeavour to cap Victories with him, and keep the Reckoning even — Now we

are inform'd, he has pass'd the *Adige*, with an unexpected Success, has push'd the French from all their Fortresses, drove them before him with his usual Valour, and they seem dispirited here as well as in *Flanders*.

And which is more beyond Expectation, than the rest; the Germans make their way down to the *Po*, and this cannot but remark on a little.

To have travers'd the *Milanese*, had been a tedious and almost impracticable thing, the Country being so full of Rivers, Canals, and innumerable Advantages to an Enemy, who is to stand only on the Defensive.

But if he passes the *Po*, and keeping the lower Bank of that River, marches thro' *Parma*, *Modena*, &c. he has, tho' a longer March, a plainer way to *Piedmont* which is the Design—God send him a good Journey, I confess, 'tis now more hopeful than it was before, to my Apprehension. Let us view a little the Case of the Duke of *Lav*.

That faithful and constant Prince has been not very successful; since he left *Turin*, the French have push'd him with a great deal of *Celerity*, and pursued him so close, that he has not without great Difficulty recovered the Mountains, sent the Ladies away to *Genoa* by Sea, and now shelters himself only by the inaccessible Difficulties of the Country.

Having thus coup't him up, and separated his Forces; the Siege of *Turin* becomes not so absolutely necessary to the French, as it did before — A Blockade till towards the End of the Champaign may be sufficient, and in its Event as fatal to *Turin*, as a Siege; for a severe Winter Blockade to a Town, so great and populous, must be very ruinous to the Trade, and Subsistence of the numerous Families there.

Now, if they form it into first a Bombardment, and then a Blockade, Monsieur *Fenillade* may spare 15000 Men at least, and of themself Horse, which he is very strong, is so by the Duke de *Vendome*'s Army.

And this now seems the greatest Case before me, if this Army won't fight, if the Confederation is universal, and the French will fight no where, I know not what to say

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say to this; The King of France must send us Word, he will fight no longer, and my Quarter, that he send us the Carte Blanche to make our own Terms—And then we come to my Point again, PEACE. Peace and Liberty are certainly the things we fight for, Madam only fight for the sake of quarrelling; and DAME, not a Protestant Army, is fit to entertain them.

With the Book, it has been offer'd to such as please voluntarily to pay for it, but never impos'd upon any; for the Truth whereof, the Author appeals to the Gentlemen themselves.

As to any Spurious Edition, its Corruptions, Errors and false Representations, accompanying such a Work, more shall be said hereafter, and a Proposal made to the Subscribers of this Book, that shall effectually suppress so scandalous an Attempt; and whenever the Author thinks fit to print it in 8vo. with Additions, the Subscribers to this shall be made amends for those Additions, and the Price be much lower than 5*s.* As to those Gentlemen who have subscrib'd, the Author refers them to the Book for the Performance, whether the Terms on his side are not comply'd with, even beyond his Proposals; assuring them, he could have sav'd 4*l.* in number of Sheets, Goodness of Paper and Workmanship, and yet have come within the Bounds of his Proposal. If after this, any of the Subscribers, to save a Trifle, shall take up with a Spurious Copy, to the encouraging a Thief in the robbing the Author, and thereby become accessory to the Crime—I submit it to their Honesty, and had rather receive Wrong than do it.

M R. Scarlet is desir'd to send more particular Directions, how he may be wrote to.

T HE Gentleman who sent a Letter sign'd A. P. is desir'd to send some Authentick Proof of the Fact in his Letter, and it shall be inserted at large to his Satisfaction.

Just Publish'd,

A Dissertation upon the tenth Chapter of the fourth Book of Mr. Locke's Essay, concerning human Understanding. Wherein that Author's endeavours to establish Spinoza's Atheistical Hypothesis, more especially in that tenth Chapter, are discover'd and confuted. To which is subjoined; a short Account of the Sense whereof the Titles of, and the Reasonings in the following pernicious Books, are to be understood,

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The Author setting aside the Arguments against the Honesty of the thing, as what is no way moving to those, who commit so manifest a Robbery on the Property of another, defires the World but to consider the Justice of the Pretence, Viz. That this Book is sold for the sole Benefit of the Author.

The Author thanks the Pyrates of this Book for taking off the Mask, and showing the Thief so plain, that any Man may see it himself without a Comment.

If not for the Benefit of the Author, why did the Author propose it by Subscription? — Why did he not rather, having labour'd to finish a Tract of that Size, come humbly to the Bookseller, and beg him to receive the Benefit of his Work?

I think therefore, there can be no stronger Argument than this; That this Design is a Robbery on the Author, by a Sort of Men, who will neither give Authors valuable Considerations for any thing they do, nor suffer them to publish it themselves.

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As to the Pretence of imponing on the Subscribers, 'tis a manifest Forgery, a Prince having with great Charge been prepar'd to